

PATENT  
450100-03407

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Fumiyoishi ABE et al.

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Serial No.: 09/923,152

OCT 27 2006

Filed: August 6, 2001

For: INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS AND  
METHOD, INFORMATION READING APPARATUS  
AND METHOD, MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT, AND  
RECORDING MEDIUM

Examiner: Shibu, Helen

Art Unit: 2621

Notice of Allowance: October 3, 2006

Confirmation No.: 1512

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via  
facsimile to (571) 273-8300, PTO Central Fax Office

Barnet Shindler  
(Name of person signing transmittal)

Kel Ogle  
Signature

October 27, 2006

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which  
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed October 3, 2006. To the extent the Examiner's

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Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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